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Attorney Docket # 4100-330

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Eduard HOFFMANN et al.

Serial No.: 10/732,973

Filed: December 10, 2003

For: Rubber Cylinder Sleeve for Offset Presses

Examiner: Ferguson, M. L.  
Group Art: 2854

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September 27, 2005

(Date of Deposit)

Thomas C. Pontani

Name of applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

September 27, 2005

Date of Signature

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

Also enclosed is a German Search Report from a corresponding German application.

EP 0 715 966 and corresponding U.S. Patents 5,304,267; 5,323,702; 5,429,048; and 5,440,981 disclose a gapless tubular printing blanket.

DE 44 36 973 (previously submitted) and corresponding U.S. Patents 6,105,498 and 6,283,027 disclose a cylinder blanket with varying profile.

JP Abstract of 2002301880 discloses a blanket for printing.

This information is being submitted after issuance of a Final Office Action on the merits, or after issuance of a Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee.


Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication received from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the appropriate fee is enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,  
COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

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Dated: September 27, 2005

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (Use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		Application Number	10/732,973
		Filing Date	December 10, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Eduard HOFFMANN
		Art Unit	2854
		Examiner Name	Ferguson, M. L.
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	4100-330	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind-Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	US-5,304,267	4/19/1994	Vrotacoe et al.	
	AB	US-5,323,702	6/28/1994	Vrotacoe et al.	
	AC	US-5,429,048	7/4/1995	Gaffney et al.	
	AD	US-5,440,981	8/15/1995	Vrotacoe et al.	
	AE	US-6,105,498	8/22/2000	Vrotacoe et al.	
	AF	US-6,283,027	9/4/2001	Vrotacoe et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind-Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	AG	EP 0 715 966 A1	6/12/1996	Vrotacoe et al.		
	AH	JP 2002301880	10/15/2002	Hiromasa et al.		Abstract

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.